

dark brown spots or marblings; a broad dark angular or curved band from one eyelid to the other across the back of the head and a narrow straight dark streak across the forehead, between the anterior borders of the upper eyelids; upper lip, limbs, and lower parts white.

	mm.
From snout to vent	48
Head	13
Width of head	17
Diameter of eye	6
Interorbital width	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Width of mouth	12
Fore limb	22
Hand	10
Hind limb	30
Foot	13

I am indebted to my friend Mr. L. Péringuey, Director of the South African Museum, for three specimens of this most distinct new species, one of which he has kindly presented to the British Museum. Mr. Péringuey, who has been able to keep them alive for some time, writes to me that they spend the whole day buried in damp sand. At night the pupil, which contracts to a narrow horizontal slit, expands over nearly the whole eye. Like *B. gibbosus*, this frog, when teased, or merely touched, inflates its body tremendously and utters shrill screams—a habit which seems to be frequent among burrowing batrachians whatever their affinities. Unlike *B. gibbosus*, *B. macrops* does not cover itself with a viscous secretion when alarmed.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE II.

Breviceps macrops, adult and half-grown.

VII.—Descriptions of a new Toad and a new Amphibienid from Mashonaland. By G. A. BOULENGER, F.R.S.

[Plate III.]

IN November last I had the pleasure of drawing attention in these 'Annals' to the Chirinda Forest in S.E. Mashonaland, where Mr. Guy H. K. Marshall had discovered a new chameleon of the genus *Rhampholeon*. I remarked that its reptile and batrachian fauna, when explored, was likely to afford further startling additions to South-African herpetology.

A small collection, including examples of only two species, was since made there by Mr. C. F. M. Swynnerton, and has been presented by him to the British Museum. The following descriptions show that there was some foundation for my optimism.

Bufo anotis. (Pl. III.)

Crown without bony ridges; head as long as broad; snout pointed, projecting beyond the mouth, with strong cauthus; loreal region nearly vertical, concave; interorbital space flat, a little broader than the upper eyelid; no tympanum, no eustachian tubes. Fingers short, blunt, with strong double subarticular tubercles, first and second equal; toes short, one-third webbed, the web covered with coarse granules; subarticular tubercles under the fourth toe double and very prominent; two round, subconical, metatarsal tubercles; no tarsal fold. The tibio-tarsal articulation reaches the posterior border of the eye. Upper and lower parts covered with small smooth warts; parotoid glands very large, moderately prominent but well defined, only a little longer than broad, extending on the sides to the base of the arm. Upper parts brown and sides of head and body blackish, or entirely blackish above; limbs, if light-coloured, with blackish cross-bars; lower parts bright gamboge-yellow, the breast speckled with black. Male without vocal sac.

From snout to vent 40 mm.

Three male specimens, in nuptial dress, from small holes containing water at the foot of large trees.

This remarkable new toad agrees with *B. Preussi*, Matschie, and *B. taitanus*, Peters, in the absence of a tympanum. It is readily distinguished from the former by the warty integument and the distinct parotoid glands, from the latter by the more pointed snout with less oblique lores and the much larger parotoids extending down the sides.

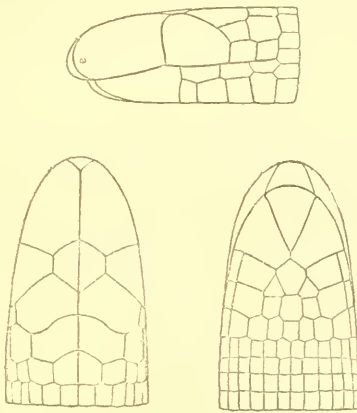
CHIRINDIA, gen. nov.

Distinguished from *Amphisbana* by the absence of an ocular shield, the eye being situated under the posterior part of a large shield (nasal + labial + præfrontal + ocular) covering each side of the snout, and by the absence of præanal pores. Teeth very small.

Chirindia Swynnertoni.

A small triangular rostral, a pair of large shields covering the snout, a pair of small frontals in contact with a large

shield extending to the oral border, a pair of postfrontals and a pair of parietals, both broader than long, and four small square shields between them and the oral border; four lower labials, first very large and forming a short suture with its fellow behind the point of the elongate symphyseal. 246 annuli on the body and 24 on the tail; in the middle of the body an annulus contains 24 segments, 12 above and 12 below the lateral lines; dorsal and lateral segments a little longer than broad, the two median ventrals about twice as broad as long. Lateral line moderately distinct. Anal segments scarcely enlarged. End of tail rounded. Flesh-coloured, tinged with purplish.



Chirindia Swynnertoni.

Total length 135 mm.; diameter of body 3; length of tail 14.

A single specimen of this remarkable Amphisbænid worm-like lizard was obtained. In the fusion of the ocular with the large paired shield which covers the whole of the snout, in addition to the small azygous rostral, *Chirindia* resembles *Placogaster*, Blgr., the unique species of which inhabits Senegambia; but it is at once distinguished from that genus by the paired ventral shields and the absence of præanal pores. *Chirindia* is certainly, with *Placogaster*, the most remarkable type of Amphisbænid discovered within the last twenty-five years.